

**Statement on the Wildfires in Canada**

*June 8, 2023*

This morning millions of Americans are experiencing the effects of smoke resulting from devastating wildfires burning in Canada, another stark reminder of the impacts of climate change. Since May, more than 600 U.S. firefighters, support personnel, and firefighting assets have been deployed, working alongside Canadian firefighters to tackle what is likely to be the worst fire season in Canadian history and one that has huge impacts here in the United States. Yesterday I spoke with Prime Minister Trudeau and offered any additional help Canada needs to rapidly accelerate the effort to put out these fires, particularly those in Quebec, where the fires are having the most direct impacts on American communities. I have directed the National Interagency Fire Center to respond promptly to Canadian requests for additional firefighters and fire suppression assets such as air tankers. I've asked Secretary of Transportation Buttigieg to keep me informed about his progress in ensuring that we proactively manage the air traffic implications of the deteriorated air quality based on lessons learned from prior incidents. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Regan is continuously monitoring air quality and providing critical updates for each relevant Zip Code; you can find the current air quality and updated public health guidance in your area at [airnow.gov](https://airnow.gov). In addition, the Centers for Disease Control offer detailed recommendations on protecting yourself from the effects of wildfire smoke at [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov). Stay safe and follow the guidance of your local officials.

*Categories:* Statements by the President : Canada, wildfires.

*Names:* Buttigieg, Peter P.M.; Regan, Michael S.; Trudeau, Justin P.J.

*Subjects:* Air quality, poor conditions due to Canadian wildfires; Canada, Prime Minister; Canada, wildfire suppression, cooperation with U.S.; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Environmental Protection Agency; National Interagency Fire Center; Natural disasters, Canadian wildfires; Secretary of Transportation.

*DCPD Number:* DCPD202300507.